

Dear Friend and Neighbor,

Thank you for the opportunity to serve as your state senator representing you in our Connecticut legislature. My first session was very exciting and productive (although there is always a lot more work to do). I am pleased that the legislature passed a state budget that sends more of our state dollars back to our towns and cities to help fund our essential programs, such as education and maintaining our roads. More state funding helps lower the property tax burden on our communities.

Health care continues to be a serious concern. We made great strides by passing legislation to encourage stem cell research that provides hope of a cure to so many diseases. I led the effort in the Senate to require that infertility treatments be covered by insurance policies in Connecticut. A task force is working on lowering the cost of prescription drugs. We passed legislation which will establish a Department of Aging effective 1/1/07, so the state can really focus on our seniors and what they need to enjoy their golden years.

After many years of neglect, a comprehensive transportation package was passed that will provide new trains for Metro North and finally address some of our transportation problems.

I have provided more details of the session's work on the back of this card, but due to space constraints, not everything we did can be included. If you would like more information, or if you would like to speak with me, please visit my Web site or call me at home at 878-6412. Thank you to everyone who contacted me during the session. Your comments help me represent you most effectively. I look forward to hearing from each of you!

With warm regards,



S T A T E   S E N A T O R

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Your State Senator  
**GAYLE  
SLOSSBERG**



## 2005 LEGISLATIVE ACCOMPLISHMENTS

# STATE AID

FOR THE CITY OF  
MILFORD

Milford will receive \$361,742 more in state aid than last year to assist with school budgets, maintain roads and help pay for other general services. These much needed state dollars will help keep your property tax bill down.

The legislature also authorized funding for important projects in Milford including:

- \$100,000 for Eisenhower Park
- \$2,500,000 for Devon revitalization
- \$50,000 for Daniel Wasson Baseball Fields
- \$5 million to revitalize Silver Sands Park
- \$650,000 for a courthouse relocation study
- \$500,000 to rebuild the Walnut Beach Boardwalk

### Tackling the Transportation Crisis

We passed landmark legislation to tackle our growing transportation crisis, committing \$1.3 billion to a comprehensive plan.

- 342 new rail cars and 25 new transit buses, including important bus shuttle routes from train stations to corporate centers in Fairfield County
- Design and construction improvements to I-95
- \$5 million in state matching grants in each of the next two years for local Dial-a-Ride programs for seniors and the disabled
- \$4.6 million to the Transportation Strategy Board for planning, evaluation, and local and regional cooperation on transportation strategies

### Ensuring Access to Health Care

- Required state-regulated insurance companies to pay for certain fertility treatments
- Committed \$100 million to fund ethical and professional stem cell research while banning human cloning
- Required the Department of Public Health to study the many options and programs to recommend the best way to lower the high cost of prescription drugs

### Support for Veterans and Active Military

As the Chairperson of the Legislature's Veterans' Affairs Committee, I am particularly proud that this legislative session yielded the most comprehensive support package for active duty military personnel and veterans since WWII.

- Military Family Relief Fund providing special assistance to families of active duty military from Connecticut
- Increased supplemental death benefits for those killed in combat in Afghanistan and Iraq at \$100,000 more for children and families and \$50,000 more for spouses or dependent parents
- Development of a statewide, toll-free information hotline for military personnel and their families to get the help and advice they need
- Expansion of the state's tuition waiver for wartime veterans attending Connecticut public colleges and universities
- Established the first health registry in the nation to track and support our soldiers' health